



LB290

Nebraska Safe Elections

THE PROBLEM

Many people are concerned about our election system and people voting illegally. Trust has been shaken. We need to safeguard our elections by updating our voter registration system so it's more secure and accurate.

THE SOLUTION

LB290, a bill supporting safe Nebraska elections, is a process that states are adopting to update our voter registration system. It allows eligible citizens to register to vote through a secure verification process when they get or renew a driver's license or change their address with the DMV.

SUMMARY

SECURE • **ACCURATE** • **FAIR** • **COST-EFFECTIVE**

LB290 is a process many states are adopting to modernize their current registration system. It allows eligible citizens to register to vote through a secure verification process when they get or renew a driver's license or change their address with the DMV.

LB290 is a secure, efficient process that improves the accuracy of our voter rolls, which ensures that only eligible people participate. It reduces the number of paper cards and the chance for human error in the registration process - and it's a commonsense reform that benefits voters and election officials alike.

With 10 states having recently approved similar legislation with strong bipartisan support, there's strong momentum for this important reform. LB290 has widespread appeal because it both safeguards our elections and protects the right to vote for eligible Nebraskans.

The attached amendment addresses all concerns raised by the Secretary of State's office and the Department of Motor Vehicles, and includes a July 1, 2019, implementation date to avoid any impact on Nebraska's 2017-2018 budget.

HOW IT WORKS

1. LB290 would prompt eligible Nebraskans to create, update, or affirm their voter registration when they interact with the DMV.
2. When election officials receive the record of eligible Nebraskans, they reconfirm eligibility and determine whether the individual needs to be registered, have their registration record updated at a new address, or whether no action is needed.
3. Election officials confirm registrations only after they've determined that the individual is qualified to vote and serve as the final arbiter of who gets registered.
4. If an individual declines registration, that person does not get added to the rolls, and they can proceed with their DMV transaction.

BENEFITS

SECURE

LB290 can help prevent errors and inaccuracies, while making sure eligible citizens can have their voices heard on Election Day. Having the most up-to-date information means election officials can ensure all eligible Nebraskans can cast a ballot. Additionally, election officials save time with data entry, which helps avoid potential errors.

ACCURATE

Data is updated when a voter interacts with the DMV, so when people move or change their name, their registration updates without any additional action. This means far fewer people going to the wrong polling place or having to cast a provisional ballot.

COST-EFFECTIVE

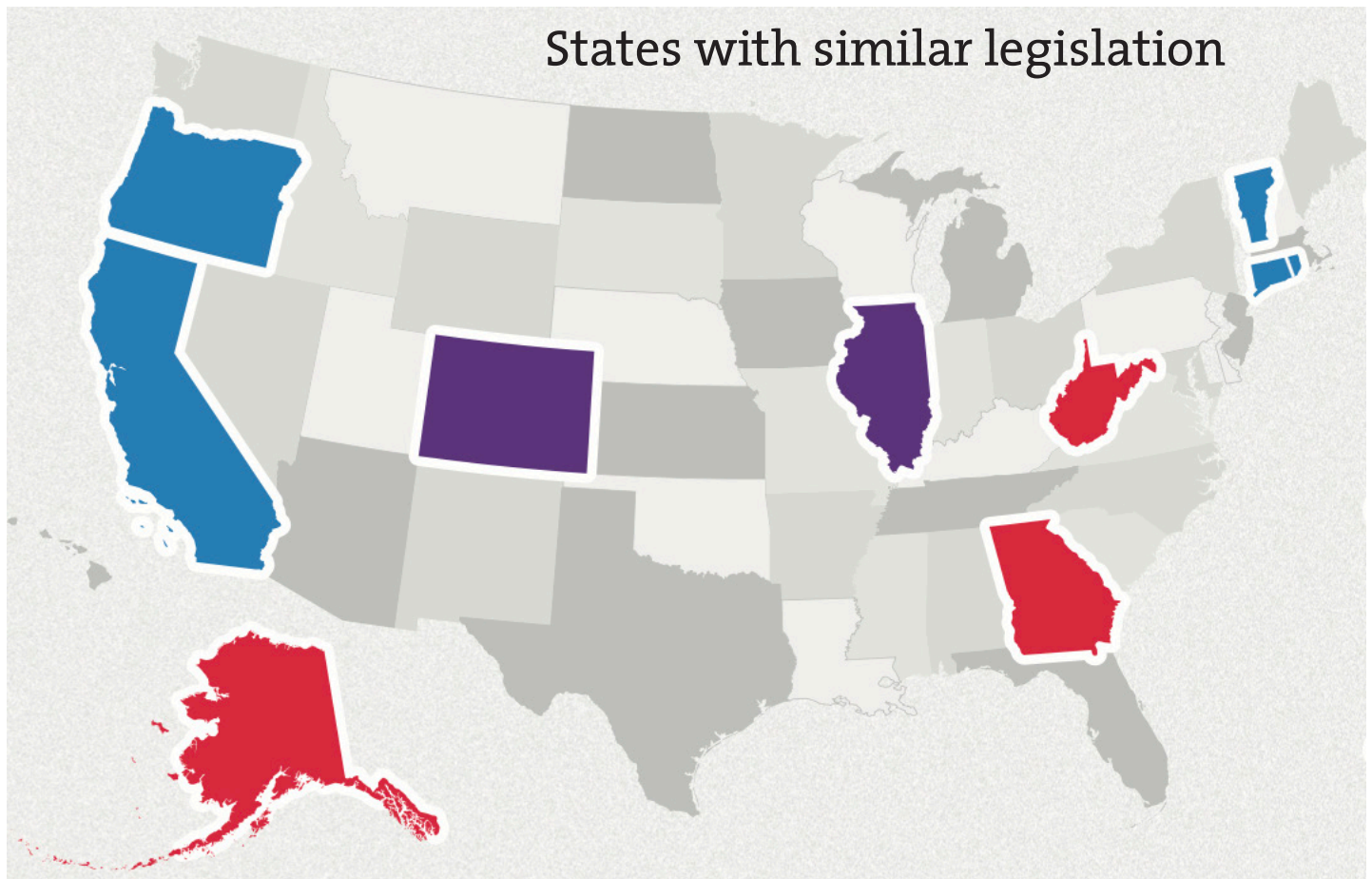
A more accurate system saves money. It eliminates the cost of provisional ballots, which often result from residents having a different address on a registration file than their current address. Accurate voter rolls eliminate the need for expensive provisional ballots, potentially saving the state \$3.50 per voter, and reduces the possibility of costly legal disputes over messy elections or inaccurate voter rolls.

FAIR

An outdated system hurts Nebraskans who work multiple jobs and rural voters. Most voters will register or renew their driver's license with the DMV at some point. LB290 means that eligible Nebraskans don't have to take a series of unnecessary actions just to register to vote.

STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

Our democracy is something all Nebraskans can be proud of. LB290 is a commonsense update to our election system that protects the integrity of voter information and safeguards our democracy so that all eligible voters can vote.



"This is good bipartisan legislation and it addresses the fundamental fact that the right to vote is foundational for the rights of Americans in our democracy."

-Governor Bruce Rauner (R-IL)



LB290 Questions

Q: Will the DMV start registering people to vote?

A: *No. That responsibility will still lie with Nebraska election officials. Only after voting eligibility is confirmed is an individual added to the voter roll.*

Q: What if individuals do not want to be registered to vote?

A: *They can opt out of registration at any time and their data will not be shared with election officials.*

Q: Will this create burdens for election officials?

A: *No. LB290 saves both time and taxpayer dollars by streamlining the voter registration process. It will reduce the number of registration forms election officials receive where they have to decipher poor handwriting, increasing the accuracy of our state's voter rolls.*

Q: Does LB290 ensure that only eligible citizens are registered to vote?

A: *Yes. LB290 allows for multiple points of verification. Registering to vote at the DMV requires a citizenship check, and election officials still serve as a second point of verification.*

Q: Where has similar legislation been passed and/or implemented?

A: *Similar legislation has been passed and successfully implemented in West Virginia, Alaska, Oregon, California, Vermont, Rhode Island, Georgia and the District of Columbia.*

Q: Does this cost the state money?

A: *Once this system is in place with a modernized election system, there's an estimated cost savings of \$3.50 per registration since county clerks will no longer have to manually process voter registration cards. The Secretary of State's office estimates it will take one additional employee to implement and audit the registration system, however, the delayed implementation date means LB290 will have no impact on the state's 2017-2018 budget.*

Q: Does this change anything for anyone already registered?

A: *No. Eligible voters who have registered previously are still registered to vote. LB290 will help make their voting records more accurate by updating addresses of eligible voters and preventing duplicate registration records.*

Q: Does this help one political party over another?

A: *No. In fact, data out of Oregon shows that all political parties benefited from additional voters. This legislation is about making sure that hard-working Nebraskans, especially rural Nebraskans, farmers, and people working multiple jobs, are allowed to exercise their right to vote.*